Report on Hospitals and Dispensaries.

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The Report on the working of Hospitals and Dispensaries in the State for the Calendar year 1925, received from the Senior Surgeon with letter No. Pl. 35-7-90, dated the 2nd June 1926.

ORDER NO. G. 2421-3—MED. 128-25-4, DATED 1ST SEPTEMBER 1926.

Recorded.

2. Dr. B. Mahomed Usmon was Senior Surgeon throughout the year.

3. The number of dispensaries at the beginning of the year was 196 (shown as 195 by an oversight in the previous year's report). Six new dispensaries were opened during the year.

4. The total number of patients treated in the institutions was 22,15,919 which was 41,748, more than in the previous year. Of these, the number of in-patients was 22,696 as against 23,403 in the previous year. Out of these, 14,596 were cured and 4,713 relieved. The total number of out-patients was 21,93,223.

5. The largest number of in-patients were treated for malaria and diseases of the eye and the largest number of out-patients suffered from malaria, diseases of the digestive system, diseases of the eye, and diseases of the respiratory system.

6. The total expenditure in the department was Rs. 10,08,372 of which Rs. 6,21,594 was spent on salaries, Rs. 1,18,269 on medicines, Rs. 2,28,651 on diet and other expenditure and the rest on buildings and repairs and investments. The grant from State Funds was Rs. 7,85,156; the District and Municipal funds contributed Rs. 1,98,762. Miscellaneous receipts consisting chiefly of fees collected in hospitals amounted to Rs. 24,454. The Senior Surgeon observes that the rules regarding levy of fees do not seem to be strictly enforced in some of the institutions. Government desire to emphasise the need for special attention to ensure the recovery of fees in all cases coming under the rules in force.

7. There were 156 midwives at the beginning of the year. Nine more were appointed during the course of the year. The number of cases attended by them was 12,288 which was 236 less than in the previous year. The average number of cases attended by each midwife was 75 per year as against 80 in the previous year. The Senior Surgeon observes that the work turned out by the trained midwives employed by Local Bodies must be considered poor and that their services are not called in as often as desirable. Orders have issued sanctioning a higher rate of reward than hitherto for work done by midwives under the Malnad Improvement Scheme and District Boards have been requested to adopt the same rates for midwives employed by them. It is trusted that this class of public servants in the Malnad will in consequence take more interest in their work and use all opportunities of being serviceable in labour cases.

8. The number of in-patients treated in the Victoria Hospital during the year was 3,756 as against 3,907 in the previous year the daily average being 151·50 as against 143·29. The number of out-patients was 44,229 with a daily average of 311·09 as against a total of 46,469 and a daily average of 339·28 respectively in the previous year. It is observed that an addition of 50 beds to the existing number is proposed to be made by re-arranging cots in the existing wards. A Matron selected by the College of Nursing, London, has recently been appointed to the Hospital. The number of in-patients in the Krishnarajendra Hospital was 2,908 or 72 less than in the previous year. The number of out-patients was 51,967 giving a daily average of 440·57 as against 53,222 with a daily average of 439·59 during the previous year. The number of in-patients in the Minto-Ophthalmic Hospital was 2,248 or 158 less than in the previous year. The number of out-patients was 19,844 as against 19,756, the daily average being 214·32 as against 206·60 in the previous year. One thousand four hundred and thirty-seven important operations were performed in this Hospital, of which three failed. The Maternity Hospitals, Bangalore, Mysore and the Kolar Gold Fields had a total number of 3,934 in-patients as against 3,108 in the previous

year. The total number of out-patients in these three Hospitals was 46,204 with a daily average of 312·03 as against a total of 42,800 and a daily average of 296·77 in the previous year.

9. The number of in-patients in the Princess Krishnajammanni Sanatorium was 124, as against 140 in the previous year. Of the number treated 40 were cured and 19 were relieved. The total number of out-patients was 1,400 as against 958 in the previous year. A Medical Graduate, who holds a certificate of having worked in a Tuberculosis Hospital in England, has been added to the staff of this Hospital. The total number of persons treated in the Epidemic Diseases Hospitals in Bangalore, Mysore and the Kolar Gold Fields was 733. Of these 429 were cured and 128 were relieved. There were 22 inmates in the Leper Asylum, Bangalore, at the beginning of the year ; 86 were admitted during the year ; 68 of these were discharged and 13 died leaving 27 in the institution at the close of the year.

10. The Medical Stores dealt with 193 annual indents and 1,377 extra indents during the year. Orders for tinctures, etc., to the extent of Rs. 23,288 were placed with the Mysore Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. The total amount paid on account of stores during the year was Rs. 1,85,427. Certain rules for improving the working of the stores were issued during the year. It is reported that as a consequence, no indent was pending in the Stores at the close of the year. It is stated that supplies ordered from England were delayed. The Stores Purchase Committee is requested to take steps in future to obtain the supplies in time. The report of inspection of the Stores promised by the Senior Surgeon should be expedited.

11. There were 154 inmates in the Lunatic Asylum, Bangalore, at the beginning of the year and 113 were admitted during the year. Of these 83 were discharged, 76 cured or improved and 28 died. Of the admissions, one was a voluntary boarder. The lunatics of the Civil and Military Station numbered 42 at the beginning of the year. The number of persons admitted as also of persons discharged was 19. As seven of the inmates died, there were 35 lunatics of the Station in the Asylum at the close of the year. The Official Visitors of the State and those deputed by the Civil and Military Station authorities, visited the institution 12 times during the year. The expenditure on the institution during the year was Rs. 53,757 against Rs. 57,205 in 1924.

12. The Senior Surgeon inspected 139 institutions during the year. Government are glad to record that there was a large number of endowments for medical relief during the year, the total amount endowed being Rs. 51,200. The largest of them was a donation of Rs. 35,000 made by Rao Saheb K. Ramaswamayya of Hole-Narsipur, now an Engineer in Bombay, for the establishment of a Maternity in the name of his mother at Hole-Narsipur.

13. Government sanctioned during the year under report the revision of the scale of pay of Lady Sub-Assistant Surgeons and have under consideration at present the improvement of the pay and prospectus of the whole class of Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

The work of the Department during the year was on the whole satisfactory.

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Secretary to Government,
Medical and Agricultural Departments.